

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-25 are pending in the present application.

Initially, Applicants acknowledge and thank the Examiner for indicating that claims 9-16 and 18 contain allowable subject matter, and would be allowed if rewritten in independent form to include all the features recited in the base claim and any intervening claims.

**Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102**

Claims 1-4, 19, 20 and 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Agarwal et al. Applicant respectfully traverses.

The Examiner alleges that Agarwal et al. teaches, for example, at column 2, lines 31-57 and column 3, lines 32-38, all features of claim 1. Applicants disagree.

Claim 1, in part, recites “receiving a message blocking request from a first network component at a second network component, the message blocking request identifying a third network component, and wherein the message blocking request specifies a duration of a blocking period”. On the hand, Agarwal et al., at best, teaches when a switching control point (SCP) becomes overloaded, the SCP sends a code gapping control message to all mobile switching centers (MSC) serviced by the SCP. Column 2, lines 44-57. There is no teaching or suggestion in Agarwal et al. of “receiving a message blocking request from a first network component at a second network component, the message blocking request identifying a third network component”. (Emphasis added.)

For at least the reasons give above, Applicants submit that Agarwal et al. fails to suggest or teach all the features of claim 1; therefore, claim 1 is patentable over Agarwal et al. Dependent claims 2-3 are also patentable for depending on an allowable base claim.

Independent method claims 19, 20, and 23 also similarly recite “receiving a message blocking request from a first network component at a second network component, the message blocking request identifying a third network component”. As remarked above, Agarwal et al., at best, teaches when a switching control point (SCP) becomes overloaded, the SCP sends a code gapping control message to all mobile switching centers (MSC) serviced by the SCP. Column 2, lines 44-57. Agarwal et al. fails to suggest or teach “receiving a message blocking request from a first network component at a second network component, the message blocking request identifying a third network component”.

For at least the reasons give above, Applicants submit that Agarwal et al. fails to teach all the features of claims 19, 20, and 23; therefore, claims 19, 20, and 23 are also patentable over Agarwal et al.

Claims 19-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Kadoshima et al. Applicant respectfully traverses.

As remarked above, independent claims 19, 20, and 23 recite similar features. Claims 24 and 25 also recite similar features. Accordingly, for brevity, claims 19, 20, 23, 24, and 25 (recited claims) will be collectively discussed.

The Examiner alleges that Kadoshima et al. discloses all the features of the recited claims. Applicants disagree.

Kadoshima et al. teaches that when a call is transferred by a public switched telephone network 1 to a gateway mobile switching center 2. The gateway mobile switching center 2 requests location of a destination mobile terminal receiving the call to a home memory center 3. The home memory center 3 confirms whether the destination mobile communication center is normal or congested. If the destination mobile communication center is congested, the home

memory center 3 informs the gateway mobile switching center 2 that the destination mobile communication center is congested. Column 14, lines 1-41.

Kadoshima et al. fails to suggest or teach “receiving a message blocking request from a first network component at a second network component, the message blocking request identifying a third network component”. (Emphasis added.)

For at least the reasons given above, claims 19, 20, 23, 24 and 25 are patentable over the Kadoshima et al. Claims 21 and 22 are also patentable for depending on an allowable base claim.

### **Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103**

Claims 6, 7, 8 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(c) as being unpatentable over Agarwal et al. in view of Kadoshima et al. Applicant respectfully traverses.

As discussed individually above, neither Agarwal et al. nor Kadoshima et al. suggest or teach all the features of independent claim 1. Therefore, even if combined, the combination of Agarwal et al. and Kadoshima et al. would still fail to suggest or teach all the features of claim 1. Accordingly, claims 6-8 and 17 are patentable for depending on an allowable base claim.

### **CONCLUSION**

In view of the above amendments and remarks, reconsideration of the various rejections and allowance of claims 1-4 and 6-25 is respectfully requested.

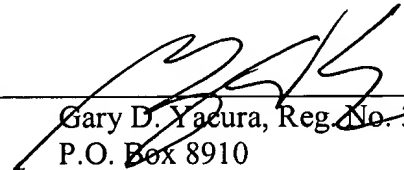
In the event that there are any outstanding matters remaining in the present application, Applicant requests the Examiner to contact the undersigned at (703) 668-8000 in the Washington, D.C. area, to discuss this application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-0750 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. §1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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By



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